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NASHVILLE—Tennessee's unemployment rate for November increased to 4.1 percent, up four-tenths of a percentage point over the month, Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development Michael E. Magill announced today.

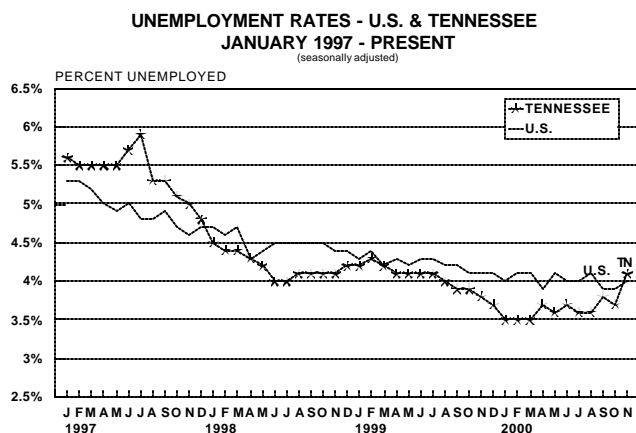
For the first time since December of 1997, Tennessee's rate edged slightly above the nation's, which registered 4.0 percent. At this time last year, Tennessee's rate registered 3.8 percent, while the U.S. rate was 4.1 percent.

"The unemployment rate has increased slightly, but still remains extremely low," Magill stated.

"Tennessee, like the rest of the nation, is experiencing a very tight labor market. This tight labor market has contributed to an overall slowing in job growth across the state. Although we are experiencing a slowdown in the non-farm job growth, it still continues to increase."

From November 1999 to November 2000, Tennessee added 25,500 jobs for an increase of 0.9 percent. Employment in services was up by 13,500, retail trade added 10,900, and construction was up by 5,200. Employment declined by 11,200 jobs in manufacturing with 3,600 of those lost in apparel.

Over-the-month figures reflect Christmas hires in the retail industry that added 9,900 jobs, with 4,900 of those in general merchandise. Local education grew by 1,600. The services industry decreased by 2,000 jobs, primarily in amusement/recreation and hotel/lodging. Seasonal losses in construction totaled 1,700, while manufacturing lost 700 jobs.



LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES SUMMARY - TENNESSEE

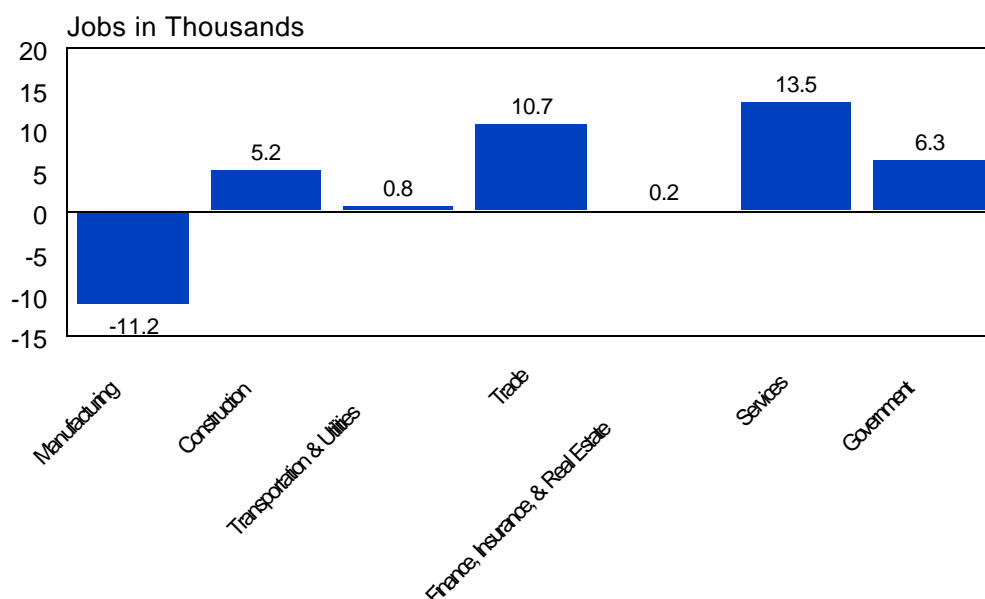
November 2000 (preliminary) - BM 1999

Seasonally Adjusted	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate		Rate Change
				Nov.	Oct.	
UNITED STATES	141,052,000	135,373,000	5,679,000	4.0 %	3.9 %	0.1 %
TENNESSEE	2,847,400	2,731,500	115,900	4.1	3.7	0.4

Not Seasonally Adjusted						
UNITED STATES	141,026,000	135,731,000	5,295,000	3.8 %	3.6 %	0.2 %
TENNESSEE	2,873,400	2,759,800	113,600	4.0	3.5	0.5

OVER THE YEAR JOB GROWTH

By Major Industry (November 1999-2000)



County and MSA rates will be released on Wednesday, December 28, 2000.

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NOTE: Information will be available on the Internet; enter "http://www.state.tn.us/labor-wfd/labor_figures." Sound may be obtained from the Governor's NewsLine at 1-800-342-1483 or Nashville area 741-4877.

NOTE: Tennessee's employment and unemployment statistics are based on two major surveys. The Current Population Survey (CPS) is a survey by place of residence providing estimates on the number of people in the labor force, total employment, unemployment, and the unemployment rate. Beginning in January 1992, the CPS data are seasonally adjusted for all states as directed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The business survey collects data by place of work and creates information about jobs in various industries. The business survey data are non-seasonally adjusted at this time.

The Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development is an equal opportunity employer. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

El Departamento del Trabajo y de la Fuerza Laboral es un organismo empresarial que aplica la igualdad de oportunidades. Los Servicios y ayudas auxiliares están disponibles para los individuos con impedimentos si los solicitan.